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Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 094663

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ATHENS NICOSIA
FROM ANKARA 22 APR 75:

QUOTE S E C R E T ANKARA 3184

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY, GR
SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRIMIN DEMIREL

1. DEMIREL AND CAGLAYANGIL RECEIVED BILL MACOMBER, EAGLETON AND ME AFTERNOON APRIL 22. AFTER HEARING BRIEF SUMMARY FROM ME ON PREVIOUS DAY'S DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, DEMIREL LAUNCHED INTO BLUNT DESCRIPTION OF HOW TURKS SEE US DEFENSE RELATIONSHIP AND HIS INABILITY TO EXPLAIN CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO HIS PEOPLE. HE SAID THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO CONNECT CYPRUS OR GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS TO US RELATIONS AND AID EMBARGO WOULD MEAN NO PROGRESS ON FORMER. HE RECOGNIZED THAT TIME HAD BEEN NEEDED TO REVERSE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AND HOPED
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THAT WE APPRECIATED RESTRAINT IN TURKISH REACTION, BUT AT NO TIME DID HE SET ANY DEADLINE ALTHOUGH HE DID RECALL THAT YOU HAD PREDICTED SOME ACTION BY THE END OF APRIL.

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2. WE EXPLAINED THE REASONS WHY THE PROCESS WAS
TAKING TIME AND BILL MACOMBER GAVE AN OBJECTIVE EXPLANATION
OF THE REASONS WHY EVEN SOME FRIENDS IN THE CONGRESS FELT
TURKEY HAD GONE TOO FAR ON CYPRUS. WE STRESSED THAT WE
WERE SEEKING A REVERSAL OF CONGRESSIONAL ACTION INDEPENDENT
OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION BUT THAT THE SENSE OF SOME PROGRESS
TOWARD A SOLUTION WAS IMPORTANT IN WINNING OVER THE CONGRESS.

3. DEMIREL ALSO DESCRIBED THE QUARREL WITH GREECE IN
THE AEGEAN AND SAID THE GREEKS WERE FOOLISH TO VIOLATE
TREATIES BY REARMING THE ISLANDS. THESE AGREETENTS PROTECTED
THE GREEK POSITION AND GREECE'S VIOLATION MEANT THAT A TURKISH
REACTION WOULD HAVE WORLD OPINION BEHIND IT.

4. DEMIREL WAS LESS FORTHCOMING WITH RESPECT TO DIRECT TALKS WITH
THE GREEKS THAN CAGLAYANGIL HAD BEEN. HE SEEMED TO WISH TO AVOID
PLACING TURKEY IN THE POSITION OF PURSUING GREECE IN THIS REGARD.
HE DID, HOWEVER, ADMIT WHEN PRESSED
THAT TURKEY WOULD NOT REFUSE TO TALK, AND HE SOMEWHAT
GRUDGINGLY AGREED THAT GREECE'S DESIRE FOR A RAPID SOLUTION
SHOULD BE PROBED. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT DEMIREL IS KEEPING HIMSELF
ALOOF FROM CAGLAYANGIL'S EFFORTS SO THAT HE CAN DEAL WTTH HIS
MORE DIFFICULT DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS AND ALLOW CAGLAYANGIL
TO HIS OWN "COTUIMLWMZ

5. IN SUM, DEMIREL'S MESSAGE TO US WAS TWOFOLD:
GET THE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION REVERSED - IT WILL BE VERY
LONG AND DIFFICULT INDEED TO PUT OUR RELATIONS BACK TOGETHER
AGAIN IF THEY COME APART --, AND ALLOW THE COMMUNAL
TALKS AND THE GREEK-TURKISH TALKS TO DEVELOP NATURALLY
WITHOUT PUTTING PRECONDITIONS. HIS GENERAL ATTITUDE
WAS IT IS UP TO OTHERS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE THEY HAVE DONE.

6. THESE CONVERSATIONS DO NOT GIVE US MUCH TO TAKE TO
ATHENS. WE WILL CERTAINLY ADVISE THE GREEKS ONCE AGAIN
OF THE POISONOUS EFFECT OF THE AID CUTOFF ON THEIR INTERESTS.
BUT WE CAN ALSO PICK UP THE POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF
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CAGLAYANGIL'S CALL FOR DIRECT TALKS BY STAGES. WE
CAN REPORT OUR HAVING TAKEN UP THE AEGEAN AND THE NECESSITY
FOR ALL SIDES TO STOP PROVOCATIONS IN THAT AREA. WE WILL
NOT BE ABLE TO REPORT SPECIFICS ON TERRITORIAL FLEXIBILITY
BUT RATHER A DESIRE TO FACE ISSUES REALISTICALLY AND TALK.
IF THE VIENNA DISCUSSIONS CAN BE KEPT GOING AND SOME
PREPARATORY GREEK-TURKISH DISCUSSION BEGUN, IT MAY BE
POSSIBLE TO GIVE THINGS ANOTHER PUSH WHEN YOU SEE THE
TURKISH LEADERS IN MAY. BUT OUR ABILITY TO MAKE ANY USEFUL
CONTRIBUTION WILL BE VERY MUCH CIRCUMSCRIBED UNLESS WE CAN GET
THE CONGRESS TO TAKE ACTION. THE TURKS MAY REPEAT MAY HOLD OFF
THEIR REACTION UNTIL LATE MAY BUT THEY CANNOT BE EXPECTED HOLD
MUCH LONGER THAN THAT. MACOMBER UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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